(b) Estimate was sanctioned for Rs. 26.02 crore. Expenditure upto March, 1986 is Rs. 6.38 crore and outlay for 1986-87 is Rs. 99 Lakhs.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Completion of the Project will depend upon the availability of resources in the coming years.

Percentage of failure in class Tenth Examinations conducted by Central Board of Secondary Education in Sikkim

936. SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of failure of students in the examination of Class tenth conducted by Central Board of Secondary Examination in Sikkim during the year 1986;

(b) what are the reasons for the higher percentage of failure; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to reduce this percentage?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) 68.3% among regular candidates and 73.4% among the private candidates who have appeared in all or some subjects.

(b) The reasons was poor performances in English, Mathematics and Science subjects.

(c) Since school education is being looked after mostly by State Governments, it is basically for the State Government of Sikkim to take such remedial measures as may be considered necessary. The National Policy on Education 1986 envisages several measures to improve the content and level of education. It is expected that the Government of Sikkim would initiate appropriate measures accordingly to improve educational standards with the assistance of national institutions wherever required.

Issue of bonds/debentures for raising capital for construction of railway lines

937. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 2071 given in the Rajya Sabha on 13th August, 1986 and state:

(a) what are the reasons for not tapping the readily available abundant local resources when construction and renovation of high priority railway lines continues to be deferred and abandoned for want of resources; and

(b) whether Government are considering to tap these resources at least on an experimental basis for selected routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) As already mentioned in the reply to Unstarred Question No. 2071 dated 13.8.86 referred to by the Hon'ble Member, the Ministry of Railways is not proposing to raise any debentures for the Mankhurd-Belapur railway line. This is a metropolitan transport scheme in which the Ministry of Railways and the State Government have agreed to share cost on a certain basis and it is for the State Government to decide the manner in which they will raise their part of the share. As far as the Ministry of Railways is concerned, as already announced by the then Union Minister of Transport in his Railway Budget speech on 26-2-86, they propose to raise Rs. 250 crores in the current year through market borrowings in order to augment their internal resources. This is expected to assist the Railways in enhancing their level of activity under various heads of their Plan.